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repairs to the bund alone under the Food Production Programme and the Superintending Engineer (Food Production) was asked to take further action in the matter. He has sanctioned an estimate for the work at a cost of Rs. 9,800 in June 1955. He has also instructed the Executive Engineer concerned to start the work *immediately*.

SRI M. P. PERIASWAMI :—" இந்த பதிலை தமிழில் சொல்லும் படியாக கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்."

DEPUTY SPEAKER :—" இப்பொழுது தமிழில் சொல்லுவதற்கு சாத்தயம் இல்லை."

Bitumen purchased by the Government in 1953–54

* 2203 *Q*.—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the quantity of Bitumen purchased by the Government during 1953–54; and

(*b*) the quantity wasted on the way to the work site due to various causes?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) Fifteen thousand four hundred and twenty tons.

" (*b*) Nil in either of the cases."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" Sir, I find that my question has been changed and this has not been intimated to me. My question was ' the quantity wasted on the wayside to the work site '. I wanted to know the wastage at both the places."

DEPUTY SPEAKER :—The question was not changed by the Hon. Minister. It was changed by the Hon. Speaker and the fact would have been intimated to the hon. Member already. So the hon. Member should put the question as it is amended."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" I was not informed about it. That is why I am bringing it to the notice of the Hon. Speaker."

DEPUTY SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member might not have noticed the change made in his question."

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I will give the answer for both the cases."

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" சாலை ஓரங்களில் பீப்பாய்களில் தார் வழிந்திருப்பதை அங்கு போகிறவர்கள் பார்த்திருக்கலாம். கனம் மந்திரி அவர்களும் அங்கு போனபோது பார்த்திருக்கலாம். அப்படி வழிந்து ஓடுவதால் ஏற்படும் நஷ்டம் ஏராளமானது. அதை உங்களுடைய கவனத்திற்குக்கொண்டுவருகிறேன். எங்களுடைய கருத்திற்குத் தெரிந்த வரையில் பல ஆயிரக்கணக்கான ரூபாய் சேதமாயிருக்கும் என்று தோன்றுகிறது. இதற்கு மேற்கொண்டும் சேதமாகாமல் இருக்க தக்க நடவடிக்கை அரசாங்கம் எடுக்குமா ? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" நான் பார்த்தது கனம் அங்கத்தினருக்கு எப்படி தெரிந்தது என்பது தெரியவில்லை. அப்படி நான் ஒன்றும் பார்க்கவில்லை என்பதை

திட்டவட்டமாக நான் சொல்லுகிறேன். இஞ்சினியர்கள் சேதமாகவில்லை என்றும் அப்படி கெட்டுப்போகவில்லை என்றும் சொல்லுகிறார்கள். தார் வழிந்துபோனாலும் அது சேதமாகக்கூடிய பொருள் இல்லை. மறுபடியும் அதை எடுத்து உபயோகப்படுத்திக்கொள்ளலாம்.' (சிரிப்பு.)

Repairs to Mumgeth bridge in Chirakkal taluk

* 2204 *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have proposed to repair the Mumgeth bridge in Erinav amsam in Chirakkal taluk, North Malabar; and

(*b*) if so, when the repairing work will begin?

The Hon. Sri S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (*a*) The Government have not proposed to repair the bridge under reference.

" (*b*) The question does not arise."

Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" A bridge is very necessary there. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether Government have received any representation from the local people in this respect and may I also know why Government decided that the bridge is not necessary there? May I know whether Government would take steps to construct a bridge there? "

The Hon. Sri S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" Government did not refuse to take up the construction of the bridge. The district board is not co-operating. There seems to be some trouble between the committee and the district board. Now Government are trying to see that the work is done by the Government themselves."

Educational and other benefits for prisoners in jails

* 2205 *Q.*—Sri M. JAGANNATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the measures adopted for the general education of prisoners in the State; and

(*b*) the amount spent on this account last year?

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) In every jail, there is a school for imparting elementary education to prisoners and also a library. The age-limit for compulsory elementary education is now 40. The Superintendent of the Jail examines the progress of the prisoners' proficiency periodically. Prisoners are permitted to read up to 9 p.m. wherever facilities exist. Periodicals in the regional languages of the State are supplied to them. All other reasonable facilities are also given to prisoners who are eager to further their education. In the Central Jails at Cannanore and Tiruchirappalli, the scheme of imparting literacy education under the adult education method to prisoners with a sentence of not less than six months instead of two or three